

City Hall
Fayette, Alabama
March 8, 2022

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fayette met at 5:00 o'clock, p.m. on March 8, 2022, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Upon roll call the following were found to be present: Mayor Rod Northam, Councilmembers Eddy Campbell, Tommy Williams, Aliska Hughes-Monroe and Jerry Nichols. Also present were City Clerk Dawn Clapp, Police Chief Danny Jenkins, Fire Chief Shannon Taylor and City Attorney Dale Lawrence. Council member Virettia L. Whiteside was absent.

The opening prayer was given by Mr. Milbourn Savage.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Milbourn Savage.

Mayor Northam announced a quorum was present and the meeting was open for the transaction of business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Nichols moved the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 22, 2022, be approved. Upon it being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

GUEST APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL

1. Mr. Tim James – Candidate for Governor

Mr. Tim James spoke to the Council concerning his gubernatorial campaign. He said public education is his passion. Mr. James stated it was not right for the government to shut down churches and small businesses and then allow the big box stores to stay open.

FAYETTE JUNIOR CITY COUNCIL BYLAWS

Ms. Shanti Enis, Junior Mayor of the Fayette Junior City Council (FJCC), reviewed with the Council the proposed bylaws of the FJCC. Each council member was provided with a copy of the bylaws for their review. Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the Council approve the bylaws of the Fayette Junior City Council. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, it was unanimously approved.

AIRPORT HANGAR RELOCATION BIDS

Mr. Kip Madison reported to the Council that two bids had been received for the relocation of the hangar at the Airport. The bids were as follows: (1) Northwest Bama Builders, Inc. - \$21,750.00; and, (2) Phoenix Home Services - \$32,200.00. Mr. Madison recommended the Council accept the lowest bid. Councilmember Nichols moved the Council adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Fayette that it hereby awards the bid for the relocation of the hangar at the Airport to the lowest responsible bidder Northwest Bama Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$21,750.00.

Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

AQUATIC CENTER REPORT

Mr. Chris Champion spoke to the Council on possible adjustments to the Aquatic Center operations. He stated the cost of admissions had not increased since Year Two. He stated he would be going to the local schools to recruit lifeguards. He said there is concern about being able to recruit a sufficient number of lifeguards to work this season. He recommended increasing the pay for the lifeguards to make it more attractive. He did not foresee raising the season passes. Mr. Champion stated 70% of their revenue came from admissions and 30 % from concessions. The Council asked him to come to the next meeting with the Fayette Aquatic Center's recommendations as to any price increases.

Councilmember Nichols moved that the cost of private parties be raised to \$450.00 for those held Monday – Thursday and \$600.00 for those held Friday – Sunday. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Danny Jenkins presented the police report for February 2022. The report was as follows: 34 incidents investigated; 11 accidents; 171 traffic citations; 152 traffic warnings and 62 arrests.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Shannon Taylor presented the fire report for February 2022. The Fire Department received 10 calls.

MOSTILLER DRAINAGE EASEMENT

Mayor Northam reported Ms. Shannon Mostiller had signed the drainage easement. Councilmember Williams moved the City accept the easement. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

RETAINING WALL IN JONES SPRING BRANCH AT 2ND AVENUE NE

Mayor Northam reported on a request from Mrs. Beth Weeks concerning the ditch (Jones Spring Branch) that runs between her property, the Church of Christ property and property owned by Karen Matthews. The request stated the drainage ditch is very deep and the City of Fayette built a retaining wall approximately 80-90 feet long several years ago. Since that time, the retaining wall has fallen and is causing her property to erode away. The property owners have agreed to give the City an easement in order for the retaining wall to be repaired. Councilmember Nichols moved to proceed with obtaining an easement from the owners who border this section of the ditch. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, the same was unanimously approved.

WATER WORKS BOARD REAPPOINTMENT

Mayor Northam reported the Water Works Board had requested Mr. Bobby Mills be reappointed to the Board. Councilmember Campbell moved Mr. Bobby Mills be reappointed to the Water Works Board. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Williams, it was unanimously approved.

CIVIC CENTER BOARD REAPPOINTMENT

Mayor Northam reported the Civic Center Board had requested Mr. Chuck Gates and Mr. Larry Humber be reappointed to the Board. Councilmember Nichols moved Mr. Chuck Gates and Mr. Larry Humber be reappointed to the Civic Center Board. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, it was unanimously approved.

BUSINESS LICENSE REPORT

Mayor Northam gave the Council an update on business license collections. He said for 2022, 1045 business licenses had been issued resulting in net revenue of \$258,815.00. He said 292 licenses were currently delinquent with 45 of those being located within the City. For comparison, he said in 2021, 819 business licenses had been issued resulting in net revenue of \$147,000.00; and, in 2020, 1253 business licenses had been issued resulting in net revenue of \$224,000.00.

SPRING CLEANUP DAY

Mayor Northam stated the Spring Cleanup date is set for Saturday, April 9, 2022.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Hughes-Monroe moved the City's financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Campbell, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Nichols moved the Municipal Court financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, the same was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF PARK & RECREATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Councilmember Campbell moved the Park & Recreation financial statement be approved. Upon the motion being seconded by Councilmember Nichols, the same was unanimously approved.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Northam reported there had been 3 positive Covid test in the past 7 days out of 60 tested resulting in a positivity rate of 4.6%.

Mayor Northam stated U.S Senate candidate Mike Durant would be at the Civic Center on Thursday, March 17, 2022.

REPORT OF CITY CLERK

City Clerk Dawn Clapp reported for the month of February, the City received \$252,814.00 in non-designated sales tax and the ½¢ sales tax for the hospital generated \$41,062.00 for a combined total of \$293,876.00. She reported the City received \$549.00 in alcohol taxes. She also reported the City received \$27,526.00 in online sales tax.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon the motion to adjourn being made by Councilmember Nichols and seconded by Councilmember Hughes-Monroe, it was unanimously approved.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk